

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance or declaration of interference is respectfully requested.

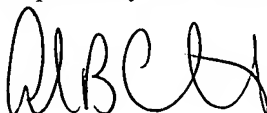
In paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the previously submitted amendment as being non-compliant for use of the improper claim status identifier of “(presently amended)” instead of the proper claim status identifier of “(currently amended).” Accordingly, Applicants have made the appropriate correction.

Additionally, Applicants have amended Claims 36 and 38 to recite an upper molecular weight of 342, in accordance with the similar change in Application Serial No. 10/266,975. Support is found in the original filed specification from the term “sucrose” which has a molecular weight of 342. No new matter has been added.

Allowance of the above-identified application and/or declaration of interference with United States Patent No. 6,582,622 are respectfully requested. The Examiner’s attention also is directed to applicants’ United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/266,975, which copied claims from three other patents in the lineage of the ‘622 patent and which Application the Examiner has suspended pending declaration of interference.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any still outstanding matters.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ABC' followed by a stylized flourish.

Alan B. Clement
Reg. No. 34,563